REMARKS

The Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter is noted with appreciation.

Claims 23-24, 27-29, 32-36 and 40-41 are pending in the application. Claims 19-22, 25-26, 30-31, and 37-39 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Allowable claims 27, 40 and 41 have been rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the respective base and intervening claims in the manner kindly suggested by the Examiner in the Office Action. Claims 23-24, 28, 32-35 have been amended to depend on allowable claim 27 and/or improve claim language. No new matter has been introduced through the foregoing amendments.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to forward the initialed Information Disclosure Statement submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on March 17, 2005, indicating that the reference has been *considered*.

All amended claims now include the indicated allowable subject matter. Early and favorable indication of allowance is courteously solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

Application No.: 10/767,744 Docket No.: 713-1004

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

LOWE HARPTMAN & BERNER, LLP

Bertizmin Hauptman Registration No. 29,310

1700 Diagonal Road, Suite 310 Alexandria, VA 22314 (703) 684-1111 BJH/KL/klb (703) 518-5499 Facsimile

Date: March 20, 2007